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Beck Road is Done!

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Sen. Cassis Applauds Opening of I-96/Beck interchange

NOVI - State Sen. Nancy Cassis today praised the opening of the Beck Road and I-96 interchange as the culmination of more than eight years of her work on behalf of area residents.

"This is great news for the many thousands of motorists who will use this safer and better-designed interchange," said Cassis, R-Novi. "Since I was first elected to the Legislature nearly nine years ago, I have been asked: "When will this get done?" Today I am pleased to say: it is done."

Cassis first championed the project as a state representative in 1997, when she sponsored an amendment to the Michigan Department of Transportation budget authorizing it to begin studies on improving both the Beck Road and Wixom Road interchanges. More recently, she saved the project in June 2003, after it was one of 34 items slated by MDOT for postponement. In August 2003 it achieved final approval and work was able to move forward.

Through changes in administrations, Cassis remained focused on the project, twice restoring it after budget cuts and gubernatorial vetoes.

Cassis' efforts resulted in an overwhelming local response. She worked with local businesses, cities and the county road commission to pool resources to complete the project.

"It took the entire community to bring this to fruition," Cassis said. "This project has been a long term commitment to advancing the health, safety and economic growth of our area."

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Photos of the interchange opening are available at: www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/